# IOWA Community Transformation Grant Briefing

The Community Transformation Grant (CTG) is a signature program of the Prevention and Public Health Fund, made possible by the Affordable Care Act. The grant is intended to prevent leading causes of death and disability through evidence-based initiatives, environmental and systems change, and strengthening the health infrastructure.

A minimum of 50% of the grant funds distributed to 26 local boards of health must be used for four strategic directions: Tobacco free living, active living and healthy eating, healthy and safe physical environments, and increased use of high impact clinical prevention services. Funding from the CTG will not only improve infrastructure and health outcomes across lowa, but will have immediate positive impacts on lowans by fueling economic development in difficult economic times.

The principle of the Community Transformation Grant serves as a reminder that it all starts in a community. Communities shape people and impact all facets of their life, including their health outcomes. The CTG provides the infrastructure to enhance the linkages between the individual, their community, and the larger population. When an individual has access and makes the subsequent healthy choice it not only improves their well-being and health, but the impacts spillover to the entire population at an exponential rate.

## Accomplishments/Milestones



- Work Plans are approved!
- Partners receiving trainings on smoke free multi-unit housing, the CDC's CHANGE tool, and worksite wellness objectives.
- Evaluation plan will be completed by this spring after staff attend the CTG Evaluation Institute.
- Coalitions and plans are in place and gearing up for action!
- Already receiving success stories from the field — stay tuned!

# TOOLS TO ASSIST WITH ASSESSMENT:

CDC CHANGE Tool

www.cdc.gov/healthycommunitiesprogram/tools/change.htm A great resource community teams can use to help develop community action plans.

NEMS-V

www.nems-v.com

A useful tool to help increase the number of healthy options offered in vending machines.

#### **COMING SOON!**

- Full report of activities, milestones, and success stories!
- Messaging and media campaigns begin.
- Worksite wellness and community pre-assessments completed.

am active and eating smart



### **CALL TO ACTION!**

#### What can you do in your community?

- Encourage members of your community to assess the local environment.
  - Are the streets safe and complete? Do they make physical activity possible?
  - Is there healthy food available throughout the community and in public places?
  - Are parks and apartment buildings voluntarily smoke-free?
  - Do the worksites promote wellness and activity?
  - Is there a disproportionate ratio of sugar sweetened beverages in your public places?
- Join a coalition or partnership focusing on wellness in your community or county. If one doesn't exist, start one!
- Encourage your employer to adopt practices that promote healthy eating and physical activity.
- Tell your friends, neighbors, and family how important community is for health.
- Make healthy choices and encourage others to join you.

#### **CTG Staff**